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Roberta Gassman
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State of Wisconsin

Department of Workforce Development

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Secretary Gassman Announces \$10,000 in Youth Apprenticeship Grants for Nicolet Technical College

Funding this fall will set students on career paths to good paying jobs

Tomahawk – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Secretary Roberta Gassman today announced \$10,000 in Youth Apprenticeship grants that will let Tomahawk area high school students combine employment and classroom instruction in the coming school year, as well as explore future career options.

“The Youth Apprenticeship Program is a great way to help our students broaden their horizons,” Secretary Roberta Gassman said. “Whether students are college bound or headed directly to work, the program allows students get hands-on training in their chosen career path.”

The \$10,000 in grants will fund local business and education partnerships throughout the region and is administered locally by Nicolet Technical College. Youth apprenticeship programs in the area include auto technician, finance, health, and welding. More than 9,000 statewide students have graduated from the Youth Apprenticeship Program since it began in 1992.

“Governor Doyle’s **Grow Wisconsin** plan calls for helping our youth down a path that allows them to gain new skills and plan for their future careers,” Secretary Gassman said.

Student apprentices work part-time and take related classes in addition to their regular coursework. Program graduates earn a state skill certificate and receive credit at many technical colleges and universities for their program experience. In surveys, apprenticeship graduates say the program gave them a solid head start on their chosen careers while earning money working in their area of interest. Employers like the program because it helps them “grow their own” skilled workforce.

Secretary Gassman announced the grant during a visit to Golden Age Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, an active partner in the Youth Apprenticeship program preparing young people as Certified Nursing Assistants.

For more information on the program, go to <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dws/programs/ya/> or call (608) 267-7210 for names of local coordinators.

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